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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/862,502	05/23/2001	Gerhard Dittrich		7223
23364 7590 0521/2008 BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314			EXAMINER	
			SHERR, CRISTINA O	
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

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REPLY BRIEF NOTED

 The Reply brief filed May 13, 2008 has been entered. The application has been forwarded to the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for decision in the

appeal.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from

the examiner should be directed to Cristina Owen Sherr whose telephone number is 571-272-6711. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00 Monday through

Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the

examiner's supervisor, Andrew J. Fischer can be reached on (571) 272-6779. The fax

phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is

571-273-8300.

3.

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4. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Cristina Owen Sherr Patent Examiner, AU 3621

/ANDREW J. FISCHER/ Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 3621